

Shirley Hills Residents Association

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4th December 2016

Dear Sirs,

Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding the Warding pattern for the London Borough of Croydon on behalf of Shirley Hills Residents Association.

I write as Chairman of Shirley Hills Residents Association on behalf of our members who live in three roads off of Shirley Hills Road. We are currently represented on Croydon Council by the three councillors in the Heathfield Ward but are located within the planning area of Shirley as designated within the London Borough of Croydon Council "Places of Croydon" map which it has adopted for planning purposes, most notably and recently in the proposed Local Plan to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate shortly.

We have only recently been made aware of the review of Ward boundaries in Croydon that you are currently undertaking. Having examined your criteria for deciding upon ward boundaries and sizing we would wish to make the following submission for your consideration.

Warding pattern for the London Borough of Croydon as a whole.

Whilst our Association has no specific proposals for the warding pattern for the Borough as a whole, we believe that the overall ward pattern should as far as possible reflect the "Places of Croydon" as set out by Croydon Council map which is generally agreed to best represent the various areas, communities and recognised places of Croydon.

The members of our Association regard themselves as residents of Shirley Hills or Upper Shirley or Shirley. Croydon Council's proposal under consideration locates our roads in Addington Ward, a district to which we would have little sense of belonging. This appears to be a "numbers balancing" exercise which does not take into account the views of residents

Ward Pattern for the Shirley area of Croydon

Shirley is a distinct area of Croydon and we believe that the Shirley area is defined by the following boundaries:

To the east the area is defined by the borough boundary with the London Borough of Bromley in Wickham Road, Freshfields and Orchards Way. Everything to the west of these boundaries is part of Shirley.

The western boundary is defined by Shirley Road and the boundaries of the Shirley Park golf course at the point where it meets Oaks Road at the junction with Coombe Lane.

The northern boundary is defined by and includes Long Lane.

The southern boundary is defined by Kent Gate Way to include Addington Village and Bishops Walk but not Gravel Hill or the roads off of it. The southern boundary also includes Coombe Lane from the junction of Shirley Hills Road to the junction with Oaks Road.

We believe that these boundaries reflect the area of Shirley and are readily recognised by those living in the area as being Shirley.

This area is clearly too big to have only 3 councillors and we have not considered in detail how the wards could be split. However, it seems logical to us that using Wickham Road as a boundary to divide Shirley into two wards would be appropriate as the road itself is a significant physical barrier.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph Rowe
Chairman
Shirley Hills Residents Association.